

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6629
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MP SE PLOS PBOR EFIS SENV
SUBJECT: MAURITIUS-SEYCHELLES JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING
OFFICIAL VISIT OF SEYCHELLES PRIME MINISTER RENE

FOLLOWING IS OFFICIAL TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED 15
APRIL AT END OF PRIME MINISTER RENE'S VISIT TO MAURITIUS,
DESCRIBING TOPICS DISCUSSED DURING VISIT: LAW OF SEA;
FISHERIES; BOUNDARY DELIMITATION; CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION. BEGIN TEXT:

1. FOLLOWING AN INVITATION FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF MAURITIUS
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES MET REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MAURITIUS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PORT LOUIS
FROM 12TH TO 14TH APRIL 1977 FOR TALKS ON VARIOUS ISSUES
ARISING FROM PROPOSALS NOW BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE LAW OF THE SEA IN SO FAR AS THEY AFFECT THE INTERESTS
OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. THE DELEGATION OF MAJRTITIUS WAS COMPOSED OF-
THE HON. SIR VEERASAMY RINGADOO, AG. PRIME MINISTER
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AND MINISTER OF FINANCE - HEAD OF THE DELEGATION
DR. THE HON. K. BUSAWON, MINISTER OF POWER, FUEL AND
ENERGY
THE HOM. I SEETARAM, MINISTER OF FISHERIES
THE HOM. P.R.L.F. CHONG LEUNG, ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND
MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND OFFICIALS

3. THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES WAS COMPOSED OF -

THE HON. F.A. RENE, PRIME MINISTER-HEAD OF THE DELEGATION
THE HOM. A. UZICE, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES
AND FOOD
THE HOM. B.J. LOUSTAU- LALANNE, ATTORNEY-GENERAL

4. THE TWO DELEGATIONS HAD FRANK AND CORDIAL DISCUSSIONS
IN THE SPIRIT OF THE TRADITIONAL TIES THAT BIND THE TWO COUNTRIES.

5. THE TWO DELEGATIONS REVIEWED PROGRESS ON PROPOSALS NOW
UNDER DISCUSSION AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LAW
OF THE SEA, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE EXTENT OF TERRITORIAL
WATERS, THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION IN THE
EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE, THE MAINTENANCE OF THE CONCEPT OF THE
CONTINENTAL SHELF AND THE NEED TO DEFINE, WITH GREATER PRECISION
THAN IS POSSIBLE UNDER CURRENT INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE LIMITS
OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF. THE TWO DELEGATIONS WERE IN COMPLETE
AGREEMENT ON THE NEED TO DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF STATES CONSISTING
OF ISLANDS TO GENERATE TERRITORIAL WATERS, EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC
ZONE AND CONTINENTAL SHELF ON THE SAME BASIS AS CONTINENTAL
COSTAL STATES. THE TWO DELEGATIONS FURTHER AGREED TO GIVE
JOINT SUPPORT TO PROPOSALS RELATING TO TERRITORIAL WATERS, THE
EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE AND THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AT THE UNITED
NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, BEARING IN MIND THE
RESOLUTIONS OF THE OAU HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT AT ADDIS
ABABA AND MOGADISCIO.

6. IN THE LIGHT OF EVOLVING STATE PRACTICE DESIGNED TO
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GIVE BETTER EFFECT TO THEIR RIGHTS IN MARITIME SPACE, THE
TWO DELEGATIONS HAD CONSULTATIONS ON THE DESIRABILITY OF
IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN THIS AREA
OF THE LAW AND ON THE DETAILED CONTENT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

7. THE TWO DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT, WITH REGARD TO FISHERIES,
THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WAS THE ORDERLY EXPLOITATION AND CON-
SERVATION OF FISHERY STOCKS IN THE REGION BETWEEN THE RESPECTIVE
JURISDICTIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. TO THIS END, IT WAS AGREED
THAT INVESTIGATION WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO DETERMINE
THE APPROPRIATE SPECIES AND AMOUNT OF FISH, INCLUDING THE
APPROPRIATE METHOD OF FISHING, THAT WOULD BEST SUIT THE ATTAIN-
MENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE.

8. THE TWO DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT, SHOULD PROBLEMS OF
DELIMITATION ARISE IN THE EXERCISE OF THE RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS
OF THE TWO COUNTRIES OVER MARITIME SPACE, AMICABLE SOLUTIONS
IN THE SPIRIT OF THE TRADITIONAL TIES BINDING THE TWO COUNTRIES
WOULD BE SOUGHT HAVING REGARD TO THE PRINCIPLES OF INTER-

NATIONAL LAW AND STATE PRACTICE GOVERNING THE MATTER.

9. THE TWO DELEGATIONS FURTHER AGREED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD CO-OPERATE IN ALL ACTIVITIES GEARED TO THE DEVELOPMENT, CONTROL, MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES, THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION AND THE CONDUCT OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE MARITIME SPACE UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
PORT LOUIS
15 APRIL, 1977. END TEXT.
KEELEY

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